



TechGirls

Why TechGirls



TechGirls is an initiative of the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and administered by Legacy International in partnership with Virginia Tech.

The program connects and supports the next generation of women leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by providing them access and opportunities to advance their skills and pursue their dreams.

History of TechGirls



- **Program History**

TechGirls was launched in 2012 after the first year of the TechWomen program. Since 2012, TechGirls trained and mentored 214 teenage girls (ages 15-17) from across the MENA region. In 2019, the program expanded to include young women from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

TechGirls Delegation To The US



MENA

Algeria
Egypt
Jordan
Lebanon
Morocco
Palestinian Territories
Tunisia

Central Asia

Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Uzbekistan
Tajikistan

The 2020 program will include 28 young women from 7 MENA Countries and 24 from 4 Central Asian countries.

TechGirls MENA Program 2019

- **Day 1**

Participant arrivals in Washington, DC (with Central Asia flight chaperones)

- **Days 2 – 5**

A series of leadership clinics, meetings with tech leaders, community service and touring the nation's capital.

- **Days 6 –7**

Weekend with host families selected from throughout Southwest Virginia (Blacksburg, Roanoke, Smith Mountain Lake, Bedford)

- **Days 8 –17**

Coding and Cyber Security classes at Virginia Tech –
Join MENA and US TechGirls

- **Days 18–20**

Project Planning, Center for Enhancement of Engineering,

- **Days 21–22**

Job Shadow, NASA Goddard Flight Space Center, Women in High Tech Coalition

- **Days 23 – 26**

Project Planning, and capstone events in Washington DC,
Depart for home with an escort

MENA Program Dates: July 6-August 1, 2019

Typical Daily Schedule

1 7:30 am Wake up, breakfast

2 8:30 am Day begins, warm up activities

3 9:00 am Workshops

4 12:00 pm Lunch

5 1:00 pm Workshops

6 5:00 pm Free time

7 6:30 pm Dinner

8 7:30 pm Evening activity

9 10:00 pm Prepare for bed

10 11:00 pm Lights out

Legacy International includes time for daily prayers throughout the program.

Building A TechGirls Community

- The participant to staff ratio is 7:1 and supervision is 24 hours a day
- Housing: You will be living in all female dorms at Trinity Washington University and at Virginia Tech and paired with one other TechGirl in your room
- Staff are first-aid and CPR certified and we are happy to discuss any dietary needs.



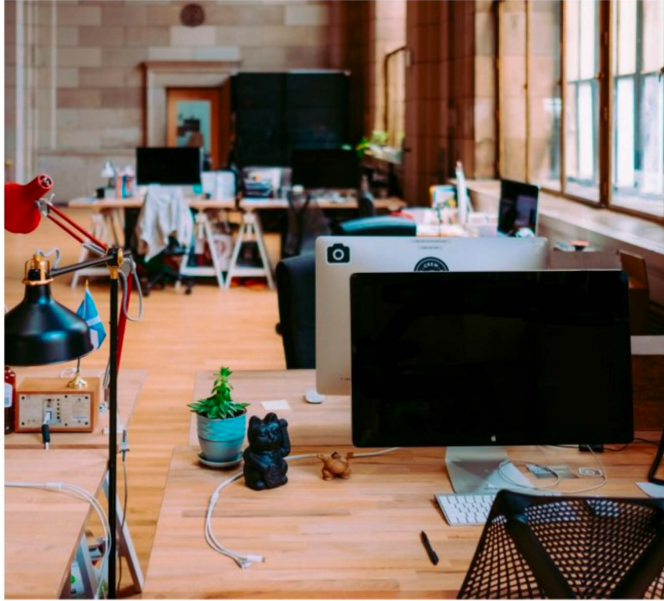
Legacy International staff is here to make your stay happy, healthy and safe

Program Locations



Washington, DC + Virginia Tech University

Gain Leadership + Tech Skills



The program includes:

- 40 hours of leadership development clinics conducted by Legacy International staff and other female innovators
- 45 hours of instruction with Virginia Tech University professors in Java and Cyber Security.
- 8 hours of lab visits and discussion with faculty conducting cutting edge research

Tech Training Partner: Center for Enhancing Engineering Diversity at Virginia Tech

Community Service



TechGirls Give Back

During the program we have arranged an opportunity for participants to “give back” by participating in a service project in Washington, DC. Working with various organization to address local concerns may give you ideas for when you return home.

Host Family Visits



A Very Rewarding Experience!

While in the US, participants will spend two nights with an American host family that has been carefully vetted through extensive background checks. This will include a weekend of fun, cultural activities. It is an opportunity to see the daily life of a family in the US first-hand. Participants will be paired up with another TechGirl for this experience, which they will share together.

What Happens After TechGirls?

When you return home, you have 3 responsibilities:

Give a presentation to your community

Execute a community-based project

technology transfers, career fairs, community service days, tech courses, panels of professional tech women, building websites for local organizations, etc.

Join TechWomen + TechGirls Clubs for on-going mentoring and support.

How To Apply

Website: <http://legacyintl.org/techgirls>

Students Who Are Eligible

Eligible Countries

Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, Tajikistan, Tunisia and Uzbekistan.

Aspiring

- Intend to pursue higher education and/or careers in technology
- Will attend at least one additional semester of secondary school upon their return to their home country
- Committed to completing a community-based project upon their return home
- Demonstrate an interest in Engineering, and/or math in their academic studies

Eligible Ages

Ages of 15 and 17 at the start of the exchange

Not Eligible

Preference will be given to those who have limited or no prior experience in the United States. You are not eligible if you have traveled to the United States in the last three years as part of any other ECA exchange program.

Tips For Applying



Complete All Answers in English

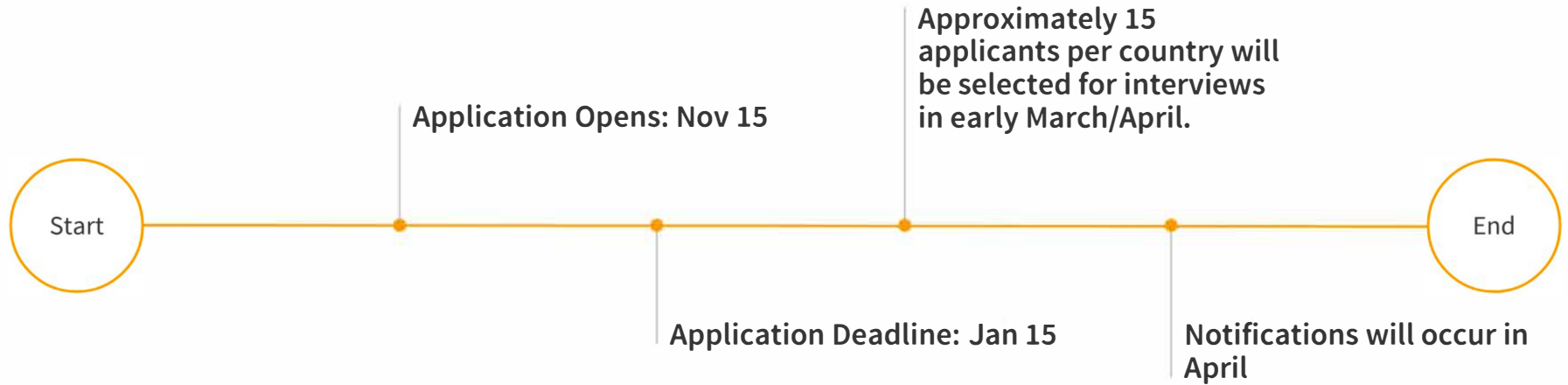


For essay questions - we recommend you write them in a Word document first



You do not need to have prior experience with coding or technology – a passion for the subject is helpful

TechGirls Selection Timeline



Why TechGirls Are Leaders



Tech Achievements

50% report attending and becoming finalists in tech competitions including Lego Engineering Challenges, Microsoft's DigiGirly, Microsoft Challenges, and Cisco's Innovation Grand Challenge.



Community Engagement

95% of the alumni report that their projects addressed community violence, refugee needs, volunteerism, public health, and exposure to technology for marginalized youth. 200+ community projects were conducted helping 6,000+ people.



Boosting Educational Opportunities

100% reported that tech skills made them more competitive in university enrollment, and boosted their confidence to pursue STEM in higher education. 70% report now studying medicine, math, computer science, engineering, or business.



Building a Global Network

Over 3200 U.S. tech professionals, host families, and peers have maintained contact with young women across the MENA region.

TechGirls have trained over 5,800 other girls in digital and leaderships skills, including computer basics, robotics, filmmaking, building websites, app development, and data analysis.

TECHGirls



Apply Today To Be A Tech Leader Of Tomorrow